

18 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

The school returned to something resembling normality this week, with all year groups back in lessons. It has been fantastic to see students engaging in science experiments, playing sport and working collaboratively with one another. Attendance has been significantly higher than the local and national average, something that reflects the strong support parents and carers are giving the school.

Not everything has been normal; the LFD testing process has continued with over 90% of students taking part. By this Friday we will have conducted over 4,500 tests. The students have approached this process with sensitivity and maturity. At the time of writing we have not had any positive results, something that has provided important reassurance as we have gradually reopened the school.

Home testing

Today we have given your child six Lateral Flow Device testing kits for use at home in the run up to the Easter break. The kits also come with an instruction booklet.

Although testing is not compulsory, we strongly encourage all students to take part.

From this weekend onwards we ask that:

- Students test twice per week at home
- > Tests are carried out on a Sunday evening and Wednesday evening
- Test results are reported to the school via <u>https://testregister.co.uk</u>
- Positive results are also reported via <u>Covid-19@hampsteadschool.org.uk</u>

The school does not need to collect consent for home testing and all students will be provided with a kit. Consent is assumed if you carry out the test at home. If you choose not to participate then please keep the kit safe; you may decide to take part in the testing programme at a later date.



Email reminders will be sent to parents on a Sunday and Wednesday. If your child is not participating, or you would prefer not to receive these emails, contact <u>Covid-19@hampsteadschool.org.uk</u> and we will update your contact preferences.

By the end of this week, the majority of students will have been tested three times and will be comfortable with the process. However, if you need further guidance there are lots of resources online that provide helpful advice. We have included direct links to some of these resources below:

How to self-test with an LFD test kit - video

LFD self-testing instructions

LFD self-testing instructions – easy read

LFD self-testing instructions – large print

If you have any questions about the home testing, please contact <u>Covid-19@hampsteadschool.org.uk</u>.

All best wishes,

Matthew Sadler Head